



Alaska Interagency
Coordination Center



Morning Highlights

August 5, 2009
Morning Highlights 2009-51
Time: 2:00 pm

Contact:
Public Affairs (907) 356-5511
Report Fires: (800) 237-3633

Please note updated contact information for Crazy Mountain Complex: 907-773-5511

Human-Caused Fires

With hot, dry conditions in the eastern portion of Alaska, human-caused fires are of extra concern. Please refrain from using anything that may create sparks and start a fire in vegetated areas, including motorized vehicles and other equipment. Alaska firefighting resources are currently devoted to existing wildland fires.

All woodcutting on State land and Fairbanks North Star Borough land in the Fairbanks area is suspended, due to fire danger, effective immediately. The closures include both commercial logging and firewood cutting, as well as personal use wood cutting.

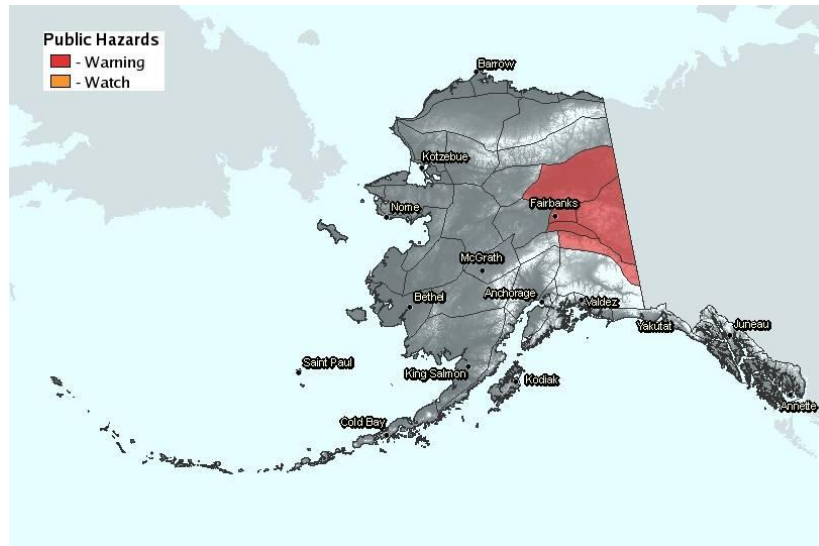
For more information about the State woodcutting closure contact Fairbanks Area Forestry at 451-2609. For permitted burning information, please contact your local Division of Forestry office. For information about the Borough woodcutting closure, contact Sallie Stuvek, FNSB Public Information Officer at 459-1207.

Alaska General Wildland Fire Summary

Four new fires and one false alarm were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center (AICC) Tuesday. **The Little Black Two Fire** was reported at 550 acres and the **Fourteen Mile Two** was reported at 60 acres. Both fires were caused by lightning and are in the Upper Yukon Area. They were discovered on infrared imagery and confirmed by aircraft. Both fires are being monitored. **The Ottertail Creek Fire** was reported at 25 acres near Chena Hot Springs Resort. Four CL-215 water scooper aircraft and two helicopters dropped water on the fire yesterday to support the Fairbanks #4 Type 2 crew working to contain the fire. The human caused Meadow Creek Fire was reported as .1 acre on the Chugach National Forest and it is now out.

According to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center, so far this year 495 fires have burned 2,583,733 acres statewide. Statewide, 81 fires are active and 14 of the fires are staffed. For more information, visit <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf> and for a map of fire locations, click on "Fire Information" at <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>.

Red Flag Warnings/ Weather Outlook – Update



Yukon Flats and Surrounding Uplands

...RED FLAG WARNING NOW IN EFFECT UNTIL 10 PM AKDT THURSDAY FOR LOW HUMIDITY AND STRONG WIND...

Middle Tanana Valley, Upper Tanana Valley and the Fortymile Country

...RED FLAG WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 10 PM AKDT THIS EVENING FOR LOW HUMIDITY...

Deltana and Tanana Flats

...RED FLAG WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 10 PM AKDT THIS EVENING FOR LOW HUMIDITY AND STRONG WIND...

Northeastern Slopes of the Eastern Alaska Range

...RED FLAG WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 10 PM AKDT

Specific information about Red Flag Warnings and weather can be found at:

<http://firewx.arh.noaa.gov/warnings.php>

Smoke

Smoke from the Wood River 1 Fire south of Fairbanks, the Railbelt Complex fires west of Nenana and the Hard Luck Creek Fire west of Fairbanks will continue to plague Interior communities periodically until there is a change in the weather and wind pattern. Smoke from the Crazy Mountain Complex Fires is heavy in Circle and several other nearby communities. Smoke from fires burning in Canada is impacting southeast Alaska. To learn about protecting yourself from wildland fire smoke, visit: <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>.

Air Quality

Air Quality for the Fairbanks Area is listed as **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** as of 12 noon, August 5. Information for the Fairbanks North Star Borough is posted at:

<http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality/>.

Aviation Safety Around Wildland Fires

Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR) are in place over the Railbelt Complex near Nenana, the Chakina Fire near McCarthy, the Crazy Mountain Complex near Circle and the Hard Luck Creek Fire west of Fairbanks. Other advisories are in effect as well. Pilots should check NOTAMS for information about these fires. Commercial, private and other non-firefighting aircraft pilots are also asked to use caution in the vicinity of any wildland fire, even those without TFRs. Please be aware that fire aircraft may be working in or around a fire's perimeter. General aviation can report new fires to Flight Service Stations or 1-800-237-3633.

Joint Information Center

A Joint Information Center has been established at the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center. The phone number for the center is 907-356-5511. Specific fires are also currently staffed with Fire Information Officers to help answer questions.

Incident	Location	Phone (907)	Email	Website Info/ Photos
Hardluck Creek Fire	Near Fairbanks	451-2626, option 2		
Crazy Mountain Complex: (Bluff Creek, Jagged Ridge, Puzzle Gulch, Little Black One fires)	Near Central/ Circle, AK	773-5511	crazymountaincomplex@gmail.com	http://inciweb.org/incident/1780
Railbelt Complex: (Minto Flats South, Lunch Lake, Rex Creek fires)	Near Nenana	378-3843	mintoflatsouthfire@gmail.com	http://inciweb.org/incident/1725/
Wood River 1 Fire	Near Fairbanks	388-7526		http://inciweb.org/incident/1775/
Chakina Fire	Near McCarthy	356-5511 or 644-3418		www.nps.gov/wrst/parkmgmt/firemanagement.htm (not regularly updated)

Current news releases from most of the fires listed above are available at: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/newsroom.php> and a more complete information chronology is available for each fire at: www.inciweb.org.

Staffed Fire Summary

Information below is summarized from today's Situation Report and/or other sources

Fire Name	Approx. Location	Acres Burned	Fire Personnel
Railbelt Complex	NW of Nenana	529,165 acres	Type 2 Incident Mgt. Team
			Augusta Hotshots
<i>Fires in Complex</i>			Chena Hotshots
Minto Flats South	12 mi. W of Nenana		Fairbanks #3 Type 2 crew
June Creek	21 mi. NW of Healy		Holy Cross Type 2 crew
Rex Creek	19 mi. SE of Anderson		Huslia #1 Type 2 crew
			Idaho Panhandle Hotshots
			Lewis & Clark Hotshots
			Lolo Regulars #1 Type 2 IA
			MAS #2 Type 2 IA
			Mindewin Hotshots
			NHS #2 Type 2 IA
			Platte Canyon Type 2 IA
			San Isabel Regulars T2 IA
			USFS Interagency T2 IA
			Upper Tanana #3 Type 2
			Upper Tanana #4 Type 2
			Upper Tanana #5 Type 2
			Yukon Type 2 IA crew
			522 personnel in Complex
Crazy Mountain Complex	<i>*Today's numbers from AICC Predictive Services</i>	390,295 acres	Type 2 Incident Mgt. Team
			Arctic Village Type 2 crew
<i>Fires in Complex</i>			Fort Yukon #1 Type 2 crew
Bluff Creek	6 mi. W of Circle	40,085 acres	Grayling Type 2 crew
Little Black One	18 mi. NE of Circle	307,910 acres	Kaltag #2 Type 2 crew
Jagged Ridge	19 mi. S of Circle	41,700 acres	Midnight Sun Hotshots
Puzzle Gulch	22 mi. SE of Circle Hot Springs	600 acres	Stebbins #2 Type 2 crew
			297 personnel in Complex
Ottertail Creek	5 mi E of Chena Hot Springs	25 acres	21 personnel
Ft. Hamlin Hills	MP 68 on Dalton Highway, 12 mi N of Yukon River bridge	1,500 acres	4 personnel
Fourteen Mile	9 mi. S of Circle.	5 acres	8 personnel

Fire Name	Approx. Location	Acres Burned	Fire Personnel
Kantishna River 2	40 mi. W of Anderson	39 acres	39 personnel
Hardluck	28 mi. NW of Fairbanks	1,000 acres	72 personnel
			FAS # 2 Type 2 1A
			Rio Grande Type 2 1A
Paddle	18 mi. SE of Circle	31,368 acres	5 personnel
Rock Slough	50 mi. NE of Ft. Yukon	49,297 acres	77 personnel
			Allakaket #1 Type 2 crew
			Noorvik #1 Type 2 crew
			North Star Type 2 crew
			St. Michaels Type 2 crew
Bear Creek	58 mi. W of Healy	51,769 acres	4 personnel
Zitziana	53 mi. W of Anderson	139,053 acres	50 personnel
			Gannett Glacier Type 2 1A
Big Creek	30 mi. SW of Birch Creek	158,749 acres	28 personnel
Titna River	105 mi. W of Anderson	142,967 acres	9 personnel
Chakina	13 mi. S of McCarthy	54,000 acres	16 personnel

National Wildland Fire Summary

According to the National Interagency Fire Center, moderate initial attack on wildland fires was occurring. Thirteen new large fires were reported: one each in Wyoming and Idaho; two each in New Mexico and Arizona; three in California; and four in Oregon. Four large fires were contained: one in Oregon and three in Arizona. For more information on the national situation, visit: http://www.nifc.gov/fire_info/nfn.htm

Additional References

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/>
 - Map of Current Fires: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>
 - Situation Report: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf>
 - National Fire Situation: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf>
 - Guide to Wildland Fire Suppression in AK: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/news/psa/Media%20Guide%20to%20AK%20Wildland%20Fire%20Suppression.pdf>
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group- Education and Reference Materials: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php>

- Creating Defensible Space: <http://firewise.org/> and <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/06Firewise.pdf>
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <http://511.alaska.gov/>
- Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): <http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/>
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>
- National Parks Service: <http://www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm>
- National Weather Service: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <http://www.fws.gov/fire/>
- USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>
- Anchorage Fire Department: www.muni.org/fire
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc/>
- Federal Aviation Administration: <http://www.faa.gov/>

AICC Morning Highlights were compiled by Maggie Rogers (Alaska Division of Forestry), Diane Hunt and Doug Stockdale (BLM Alaska Fire Service).